**Open field demonstration scheme by National Institute of Health and Family Welfare**

949. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi proposes to start or open Field Demonstration Centres in Health and Family Welfare in the rural and tribal areas in the country apart from Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and locations of such centres: and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE ( (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A proposal to start a Rural Field Practice Demonstration Area was received from the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare. Due to resource constraints it was decided to take up the matter later.

**Stopping the manufacture of iodised salt**

950. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that researchers of the Defence Research Organisation have opined that iodised salt being manufactured in the country is not good for health as reported in 'Navbharat Times' of the 19th May, 1988;

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained facts in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken to stop the sale of iodised salt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE ( (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) Yes. The Government has seen the news item.

Administration of iodised salt is the simple and cheapest method for the control of Goitre and other Iodine Defficiency Disorders, which is one of the most widely prevalent nutritional problems of the country. The level of iodisation of salt has been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 taking into account acceptable level of iodine in-take oven by normally healthy individuals. There is a general consensus that iodation of salt at the level recommended will not pose any health hazards to the consumers of all age groups even though they are not having iodine deficiency.

**Ticketless travel by air passengers**

951. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Daily Telegraph of the 4th June, 1988 regarding ticketless passengers travelling in the Airbus and if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that a passenger was found without ticket in a Delhi bound Airbus flight No. 263 on May 27, 1988;

(c) whether the said passenger has been charge-sheeted; and

(d) what is the number of air passengers found travelling without ticket or valid travelling authority tickets in 1986-87 and 1988 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) (a) The news item regarding ticketless passengers travelling on Airbus which appeared in the Daily Telegraph of 4-6-1988 has come to the notice of the Government No passenger has, however, travelled without ticket as alleged in the news item.

(b) A staff passenger attempted to travel without a valid ticket on Indian Airlines Flight IC-263 of 27-5-1988 but the same was detected and the concerned passenger was off-loaded before the release of the flight.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No passenger was found travelling without ticket or valid travelling authority during the year 1987 and upto May, 1988.

**Funds for National Leprosy Eradication Programme in States**

952. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several States and Union Territories have been receiving funds from the Central Government for National Leprosy Eradication Programme;

(b) if so, what amount was allocated to Maharashtra, Bihar, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Delhi in 1980-81, 1982-83 and 1985-86;

(c) whether Government have made any investigation on the complaints regarding non-implementation of the National Leprosy Eradication Programme; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is given in the Statement enclosed as Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 41].

(c) There is no complaint of non-implementation of this programme.

(d) Does not arise.

**Indo-French cooperation to Modernise Railways**

953. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indo-French protocol on cooperation in the field of Railways was signed on the occasion of his visit to France and France has offered sophisticated technology to help India modernise her Railways and to jointly develop a Indo-French Superfast train; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the discussions held and the co-operation agreed to in the field of development of Railways between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) An Indo-French Protocol for cooperation in the field of Railways was signed during the visit of the Minister of State for Railways to France recently. It covers the following areas for special consideration;

(i) Hihg Speed Technology.

(ii) Improving Existing Electric and Diesel Rolling Stock of Indian Railways.

(iii) Speeding up the existing Passenger Trains.

(iv) Modernisation of a Passenger Terminal.

(v) Suburban Transport.

(vi) Management

(vii) Technical Development of modern train control systems.

Both parties shall provide each other technical assistance on the basis of agreements to be negotiated on a case by case basis.

The two parties have agreed to a prefeasibility study for a new high speed line between Delhi and Kanpur via, Agra being conducted.